

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NEA-14 DRC-01 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

/131 W

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R 141301Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8532

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 890

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN CY

SUBJECT: UNFICYP REDUCTIONS

REF: (A) STATE 98276, (B) LONDON 5872

1. WE AGREE THAT LINE SET OUT IN REFTEL (A) IS BEST WE CAN DO AT THIS STAGE.

2. FLAREUP OVER SUSPENSION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS HAS NOT RECEDED AS WE HOPED IT WOULD (NICOSIA 558). GREEK/TURKISH TENSIONS ON ISLAND, WHILE STILL CONSIDERABLY LESS ACUTE THAN INTRA-GREEK TENSIONS (NICOSIA 883) ARE UNDENIABLY RISING. WE ARE FRANKLY IN SOME DOUBT AS TO WHETHER ATHENS, IN ITS PRESENT STATE OR STATES OF MIND, CAN BE COUNTED UPON TO ASSURE THAT NATIONAL GUARD PLAYS STABILIZING ROLE, AS WE HAVE HERETOFORE ASSUMED. EVEN THOUGH WE MAY ARGUE THAT PRESENT UNFICYP SIZE IS IRRELEVANT AND PERHAPS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE, THAT UNFICYP OF WHATEVER SIZE WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO ENFORCE MILITARY RESTRAINT IF GREEKS AND TURKS

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REALLY WANT TROUBLE, AND EVEN THOUGH AYIA IRINI INCIDENT

LAST WEEK AGAIN UNDERLINED UNFICYP'S LIMITED VIEW OF ITS
ROLE (NICOSIA 871), NO CONSENSUS FAVORING FURTHER REDUC-
TIONS IS LIKELY TO DEVELOP WHILE LOCAL TEMPERS ARE RISING.

3. BELIEVE BEST WE CAN DO MAY 29 IS TO PERSUADE UNSYG TO
KEEP DOOR OPEN TO FURTHER REDUCTIONS AND PERHAPS TO POINT
TO STEADILY WORSENING FINANCIAL PROBLEM AND NEED TO BRING
FORCE IN LINE WITH RESOURCES. HOPE THAT U.S. STATEMENT
WILL UNDERLINE USG BELIEF IN NEED FOR CONTINUED MOVEMENT
TOWARD OBSERVER/MEDIATOR ROLE.

4. IF BRITISH ARE READY TO TAKE UP WITH UNSYG THE ARGUMENT
THAT FURTHER REDUCTION DOES NOT REQUIRE A CHANGE OF MANDATE
(REF B), SUGGEST WE GIVE BRITISH ALL POSSIBLE HELP. USEFUL
TO HAVE THEM TAKING THE INITIATIVE ON THIS POINT, WHICH MORE-
OVER MIGHT HELP TO PIN DOWN THEIR OWN THINKING. LAST YEAR
BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION TOOK THAT VIEW, BUT LATER BACKED AWAY
AND MADE CLEAR LONDON HAD NOT DECIDED. IN FACT, MAN-
DATE MAKES CLEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESTORATION OF
LAW AND ORDER RESTS WITH GOCYPRUS, CALLS ONLY FOR UNFICYP
TO "USE ITS BEST EFFORTS TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF FIGHTING....
TO CONTRIBUTE TO MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION OF ORDER...."
ETC. (UNFICYP BRIEFERS USUALLY FORGET THESE QUALIFIERS AND
SUGGEST ENTIRE RESPONSIBILITY RESTS UPON THEM.) UNSYG'S
SPECIFIC ORDERS TO UNFICYP WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY REQUIRE AMEND-
MENT, BUT THESE WERE ISSUED WITHOUT SECURITY COUNCIL APPROVAL
AND PRESUMABLY COULD BE MODIFIED WITHOUT IT.
GRANT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICITS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NICOSI00890
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740118-0314
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740549/aaaabry.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 98276, (B) LONDON 5872
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <30-Sep-2002 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNFICYP REDUCTIONS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, UN, UNFICYP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005